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PLASTIC MAN

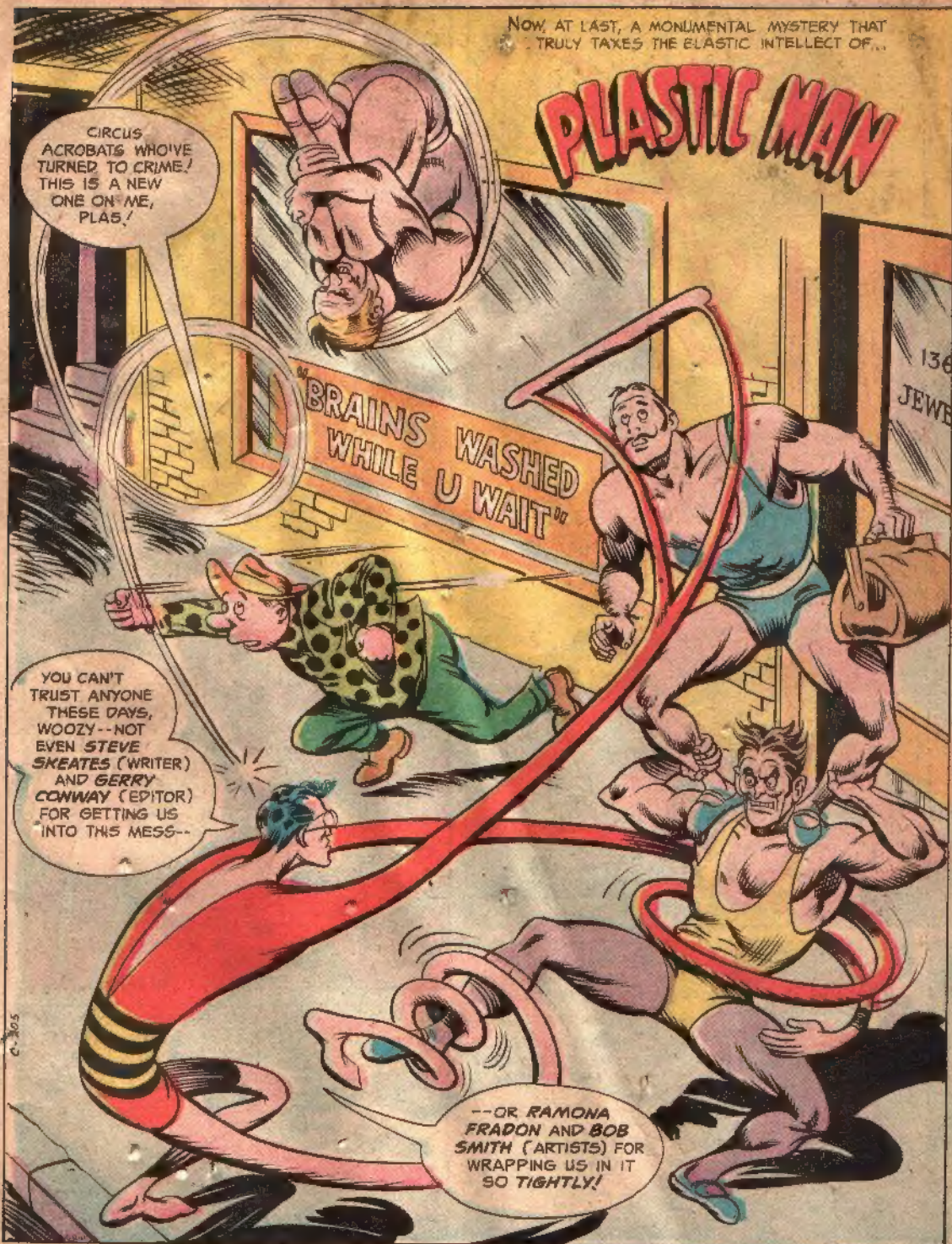
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NOW, AT LAST, A MONUMENTAL MYSTERY THAT
TRULY TAXES THE ELASTIC INTELLECT OF...

PLASTIC MAN



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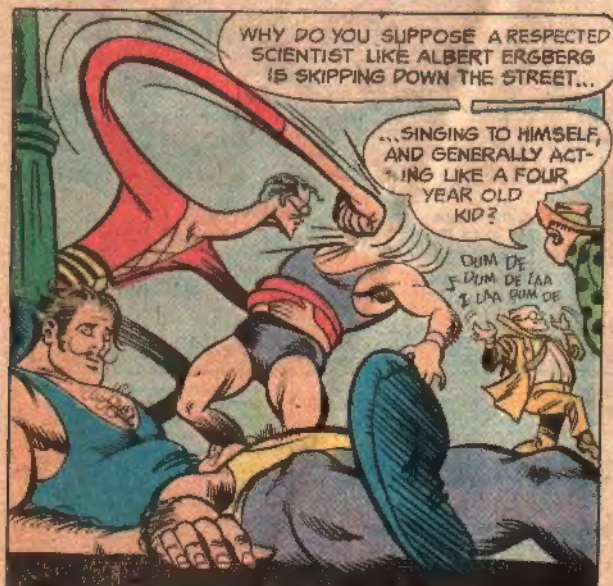
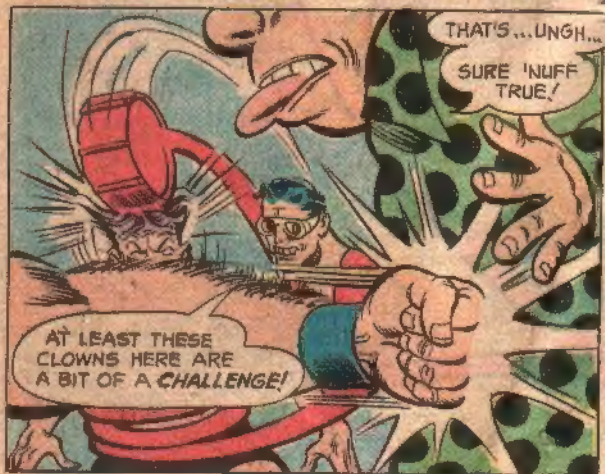
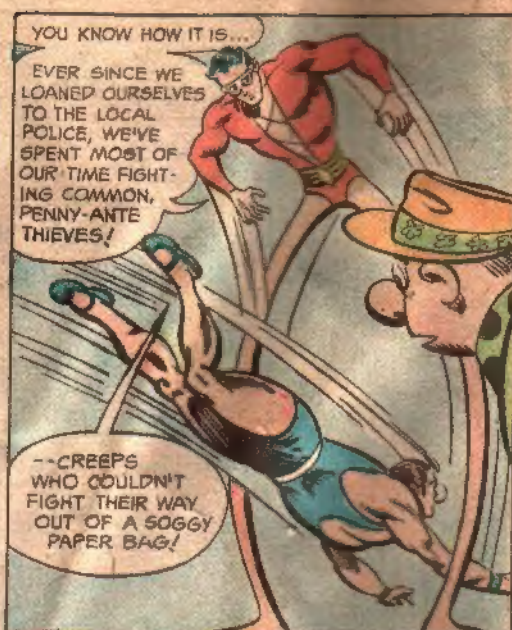
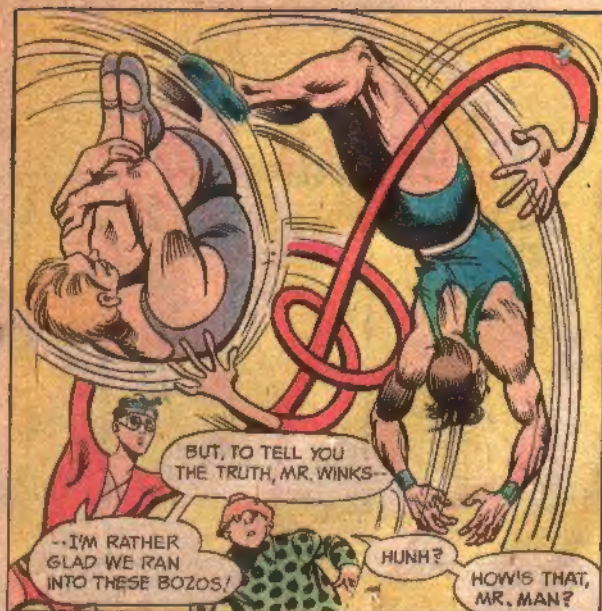
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*SEE PLAS #11!





SWIFTLY, THEY CRAWL IN FROM THE DIRTY STREETS--PICK-POCKETS, PURSE-SNATCHERS... PUNKS OF EVERY SIZE AND SHAPE...

QUIET DOWN, YOU YAHOOOS--
AND LISTEN UP!

I'VE GOT SOMEONE
VERY IMPORTANT
HERE I WANT TO
INTRODUCE TO
YOU!



HE'S A CLEVER CRIMINAL AND A
FINE MASTERMIND IN HIS OWN
RIGHT...

...A MAN WHO
CAN CRASH
THROUGH SOLID
BRICK WALLS
WITH HIS FANTASTIC
SUPER-
STRENGTH!

...THE ONE AND
ONLY KOLONEL
KOOL!



AND FROM NOW ON, YOU
TURKEYS WILL TAKE
ORDERS FROM HIM!

WHA-? HUH?

YOU
GOTTA
BE
KIDDING!

AIN'TCHA,
BOSS?



I
NEVER
KID, YOU
DUM-DUM!
YOU
OUGHTTA
KNOW
THAT!

WHEN I SAY SOMEONE'S
TAKING OVER MY GANG,
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT'S
GOING ON!

ANY
OBJECTIONS?

UH...
N-NO, BOSS...
ER, I MEAN...
F-FORMER BOSS!

ONLY DOES THAT MEAN
I STILL HAVE TO... UH...
LISTEN TO YOU?



YES!

STOMP!



WHILE BOSS ANNOVA LOSES HIS
CRIMINAL EMPIRE--AND HIS TEMPER--
WE TAKE YOU TO POLICE HEAD-
QUARTERS, WHERE POLICE COM-
MISSIONER "DEAD EDDY" IS BUSY
FUMING ON THE PHONE...

NO! YOU
CAN'T DO THIS
TO ME!

CONTINUED ON 552 PAGE

Wonder Woman

AND CUP CAKES

"THE MALTESE CUP CAKE"

WONDER WOMAN, YOU MUST HELP ME. YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN.

HOW... MR. ASTOR?

HELP ME FIND THE MALTESE CUP CAKE... THAT MYSTERIOUS, FAILED, LEGENDARY IDOL... I MUST HAVE IT... BECAUSE I MUST HAVE IT!!!

ENTER PETULA LORRY, SNIVELING, SHADOWY HENCHWOMAN, AS IF FROM NOWHERE.

PSST!!! HEY, STRONG LADY... I CAN TELL YOU WHERE THE ELUSIVE MALTESE CUP CAKE IS. IT'S RUMORED TO BE IN THE HANDS OF A SHADY MAN IN THE UH-OH DISTRICT OF TOWN.

FOLLOW ME... I'LL TAKE YOU THERE.

HHMMM... UH-OH?

UH-OH! GREAT APHRODITE!

YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THE MALTESE CUP CAKE?

BUT WHAT'S THIS ON THE SHELF UP HIGH? IT LOOKS LIKE HALF CUP CAKE - HALF MONSTER, COULD IT BE THE CURSED IDOL?

MY CHARMING LADY OF GRACE AND STRENGTH-- YOU'VE JUST BEEN TRICKED. NOW MEET MY BOSS, THE CORRUPT CANDY BLUESTREET, BETTER KNOWN AS THE FAT LADY. YOU'LL LOVE HER WICKED, SNARLING LAUGH...

YOU WERE LOOKING FOR A SHADY MAN! INSTEAD, YOU FIND A BIG LADY WHO THROWS A BIG SHADOW-- HA-HA-HA-HA-HO-HO-HO... AND NOW YOU'LL PROMISE ME TO GIVE UP THE SEARCH FOR THE MALTESE CUP CAKE...?? OR ELSE...

BUT WHY SUCH A FUSS? WHAT'S SO IMPORTANT ABOUT A STONE CUP CAKE?

HA HE HE HA HA THE MALTESE CUP CAKE IDOL IS RUMORED TO BE THE ANCIENT FORERUNNER OF THE MODERN CUP CAKE... GREAT HISTORIC VALUE FOR ASTOR... BUT I'M INTERESTED IN WHAT IT'S WORTH!

OOOOOPS... ANOTHER FALLEN IDOL!!

GREAT HERA... WHAT A CRUMBY IDOL!

THAT'S NOT THE MALTESE CUP CAKE!!!

SO WHAT? MY SEARCH HAS FORTUNATELY LED ME TO THE ULTIMATE! A DELICIOUS HOSTESS® CUP CAKE! SCRUMPTIOUS MOUTH-WATERING!

I LOVE DEVIL'S FOOD CAKE! AND SO MOIST!

AND NOW FOR MY SERIOUS WORK-- TO FIND A JAIL BIG ENOUGH TO HOLD THE FAT LADY AND HER EVIL FRIENDS.

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SALE
NOV. 1

SUPERBOY
RETURNS IN
SOLO-SUSPENSE!
DC SUPER-STARS #12



ON
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30th

...and **NEXT MONTH**

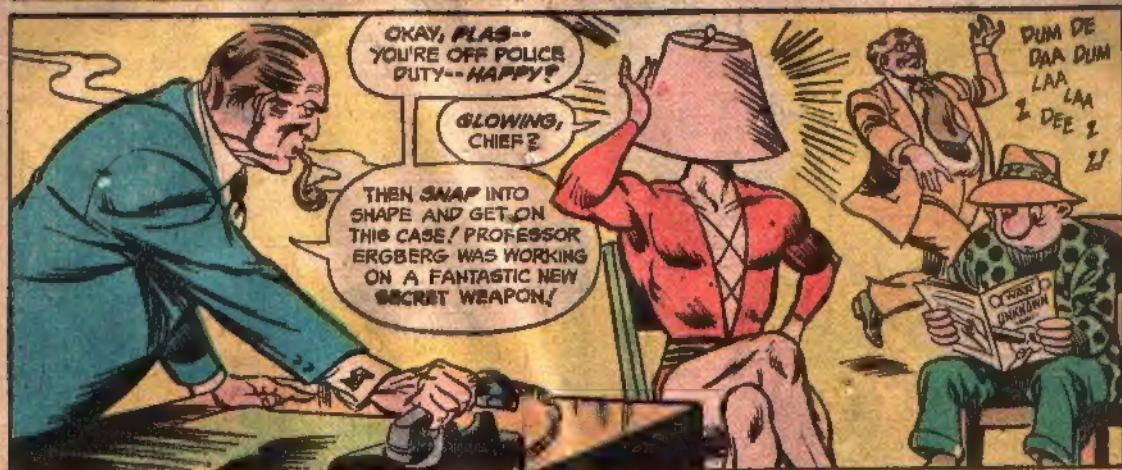
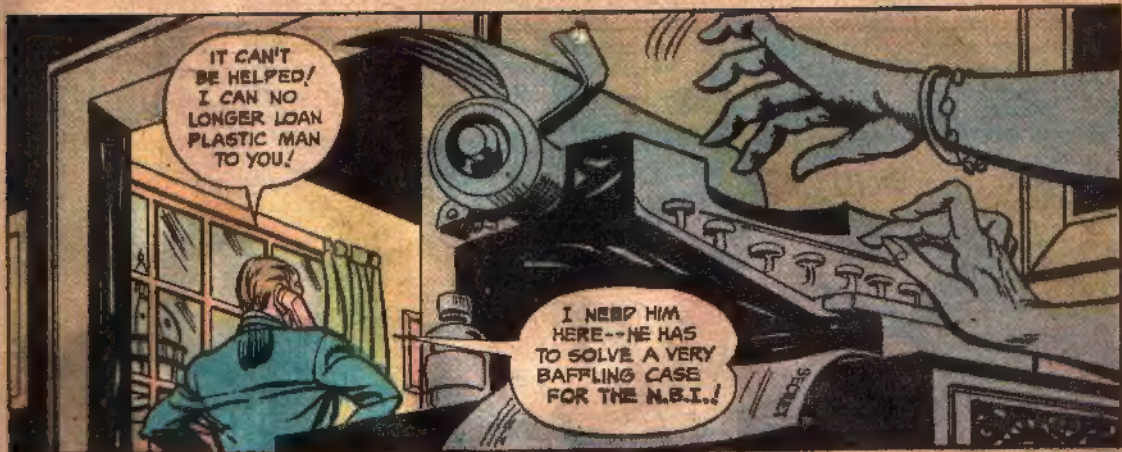
WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENS IN

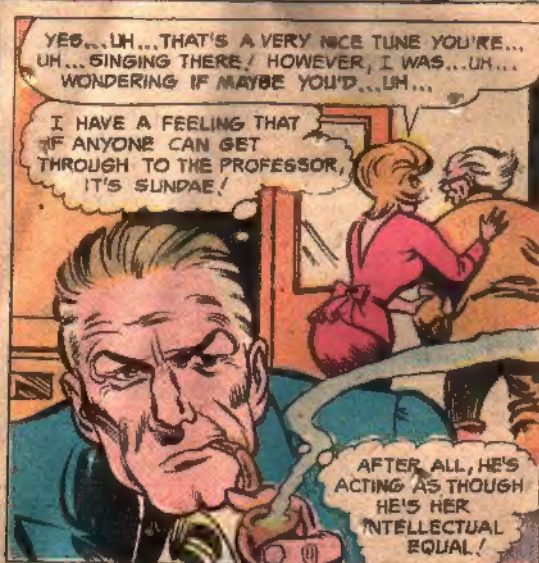
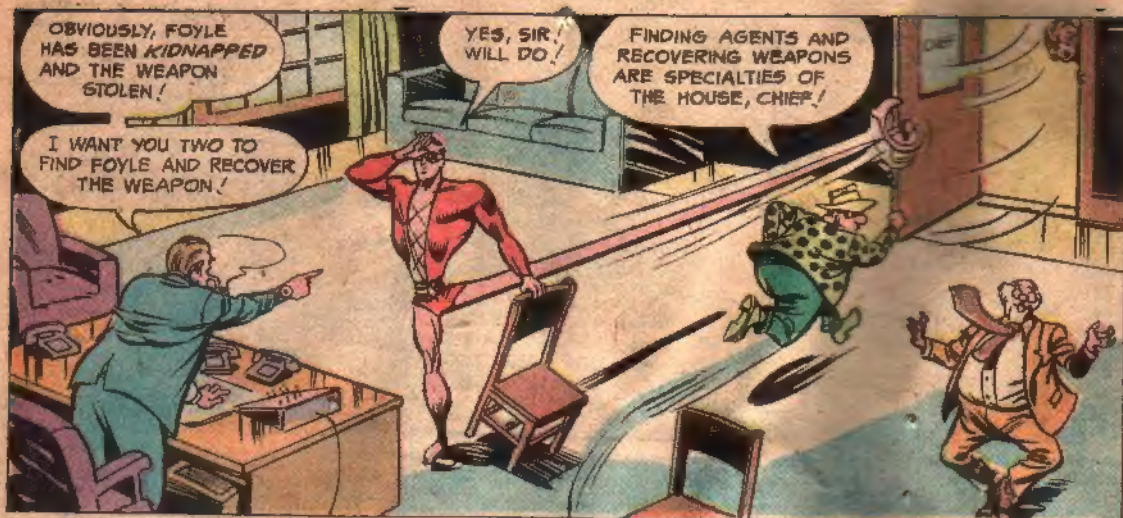
THE **SUPERMAN**
FAMILY

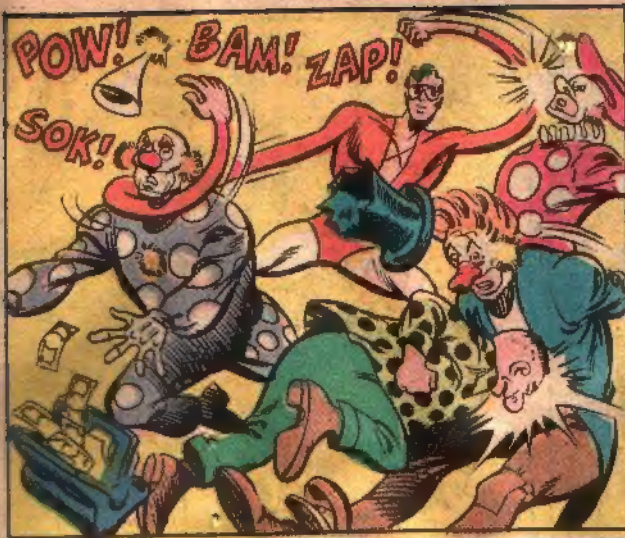
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THE HOUSE OF

MYSTERY

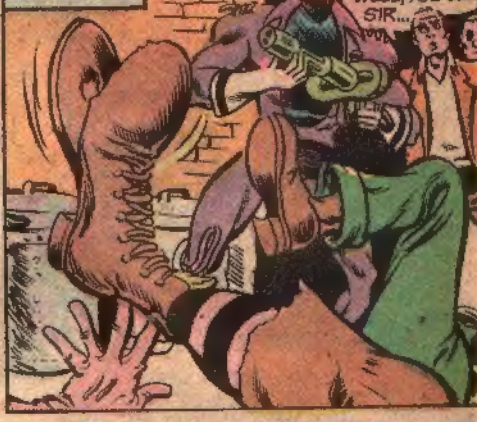






AND, LOOK WHO'S JUST HAPPENED UPON THE SCENE--

CLOWNS?? WHAT THE HAIRY HECK IS HAPPENING AROUND HERE?



EVER SINCE THE BUNGLING BROTHERS RING-A-DING CIRCUS WENT OUT OF BUSINESS, ALL SORTS OF CIRCUS PERFORMERS HAVE BEEN TURNING TO CRIME!



AND, IF YOU ASK ME, THEY'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE--TRYING TO MUSCLE IN ON OUR RACKET!

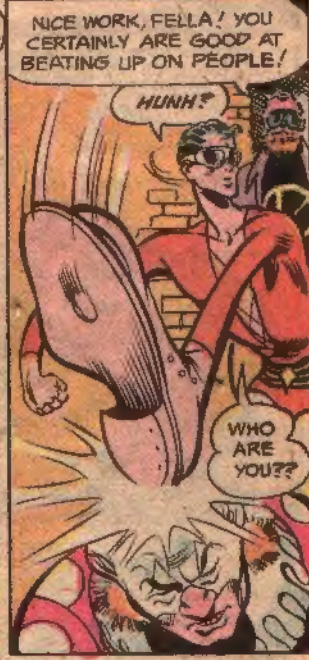
NOBODY'S SUPPOSED TO COMMIT CRIMES IN THIS TOWN WITHOUT CHECKING WITH--

AWW, SHUT-UP! I'M NOT THAT INTERESTED IN THE CLOWNS!



IT'S THOSE TWO DRAATED DO-BOOPERS THEY'RE FIGHTING THAT I'VE GOT PLANS FOR!

NOW, LISTEN-- THIS IS WHAT WE'RE GONNA DO...



NICE WORK, FELLA! YOU CERTAINLY ARE GOOD AT BEATING UP ON PEOPLE!

HUNH?

WHO ARE YOU??



ME?

WHY, I'M YOUR NEW MASTER!



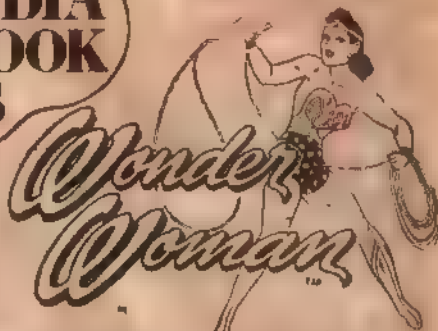
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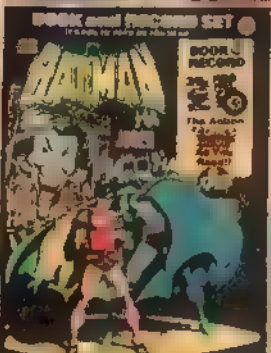
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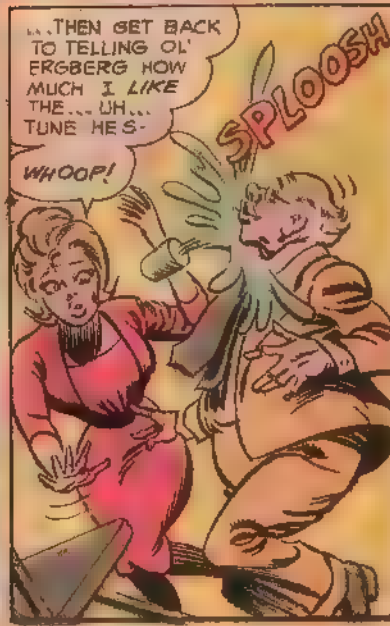
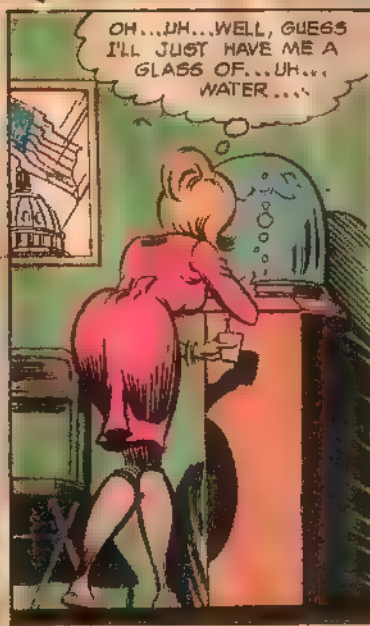
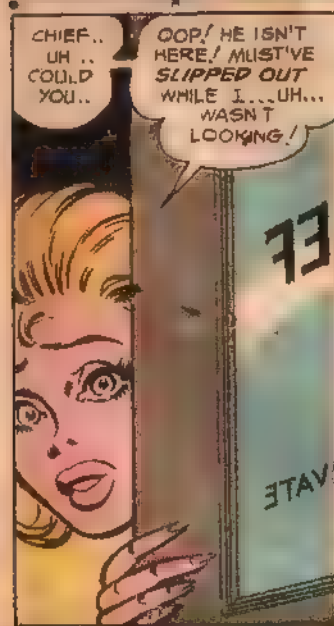
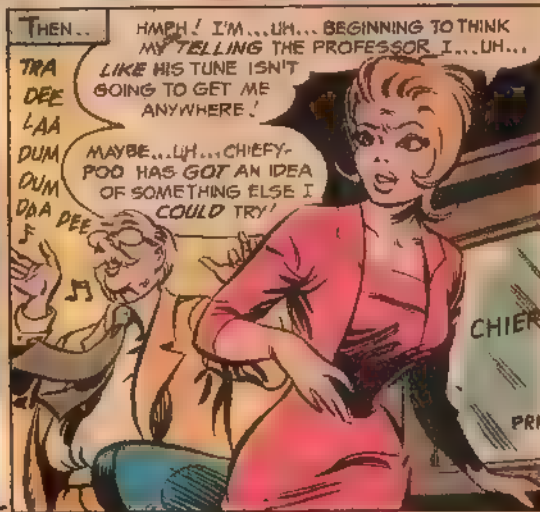
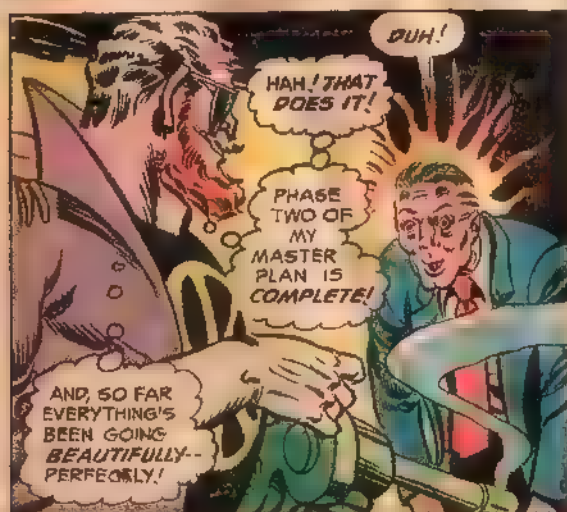
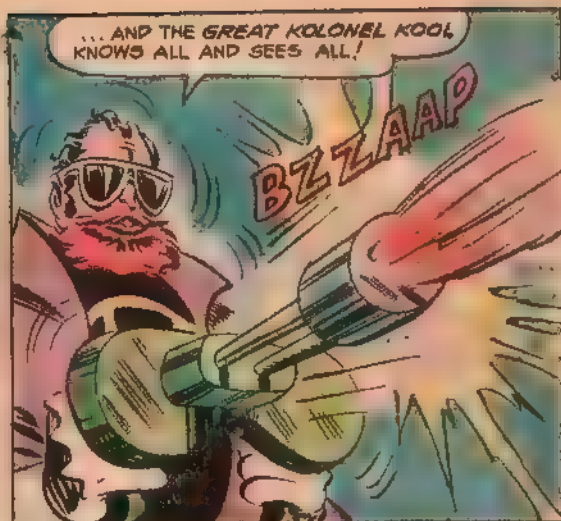
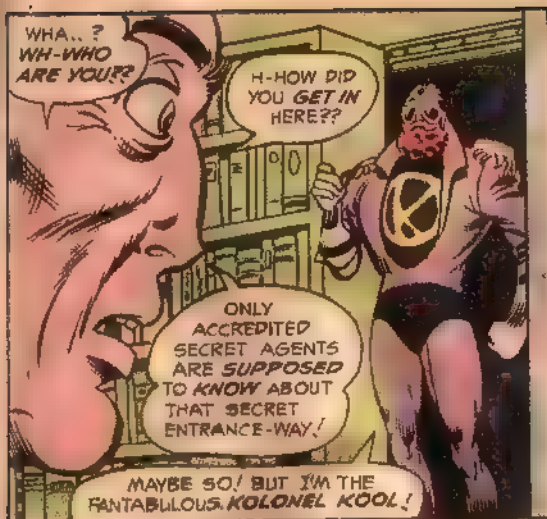
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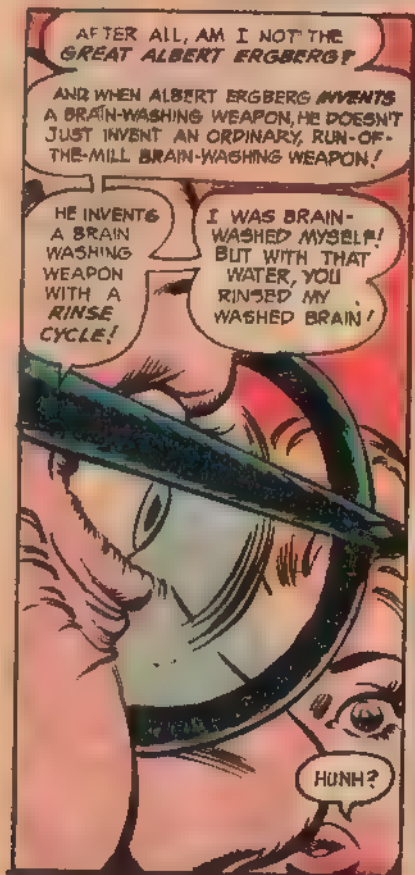
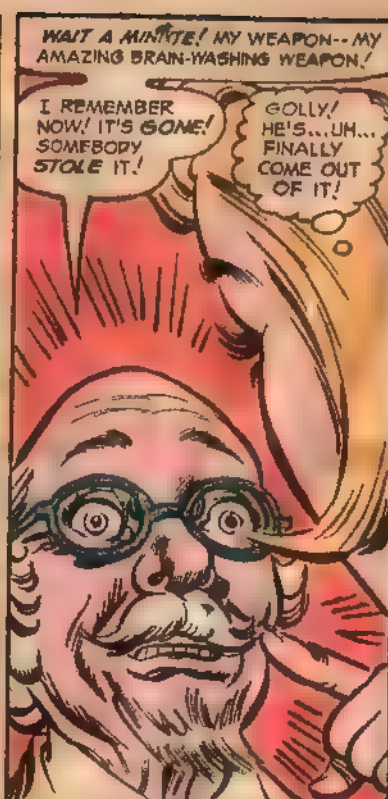
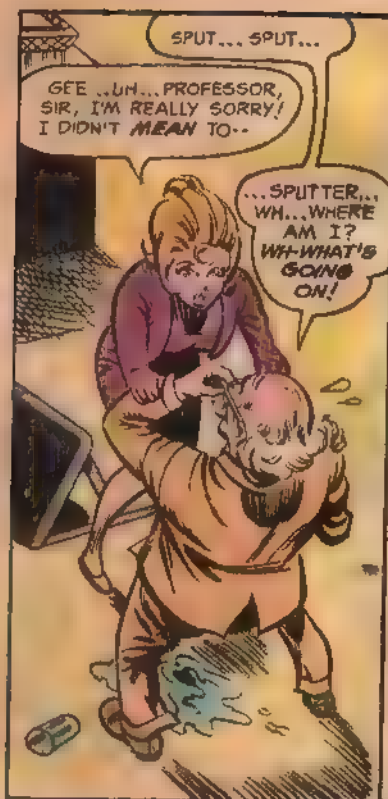
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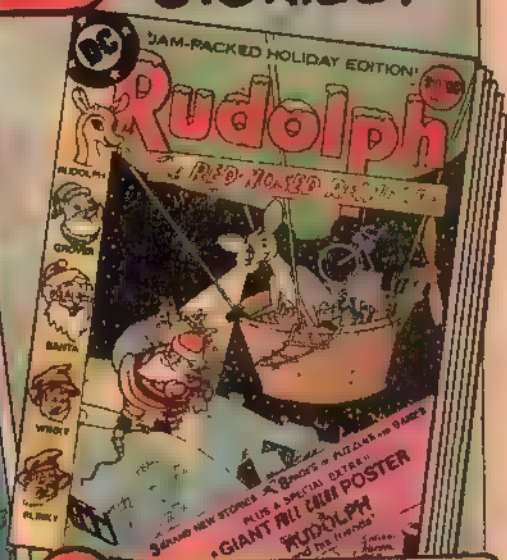
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READY FOR SOME
REAL FUN? THEN
JOIN ME, MR. MXYZPLTK,
AND MY FELLOW
INSANE IMPS--

--AS
WE GO
WILD
AND
WACKY
IN THE
INCREDIBLE..



THIS BROKEN MIRROR REPRESENTS
THE 7 YEARS BAD LUCK YOU'LL
GET IF YOU MISS:
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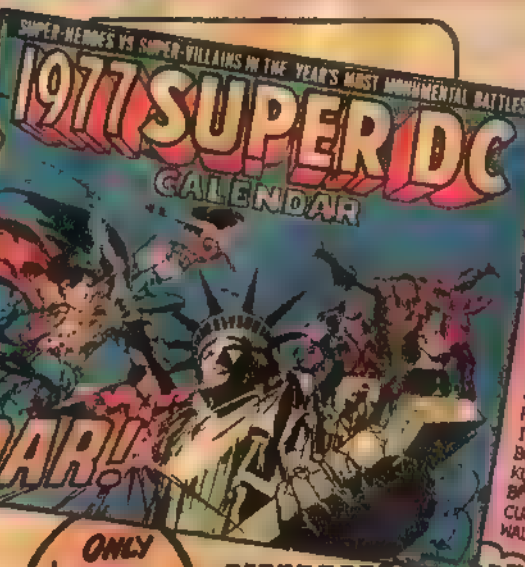
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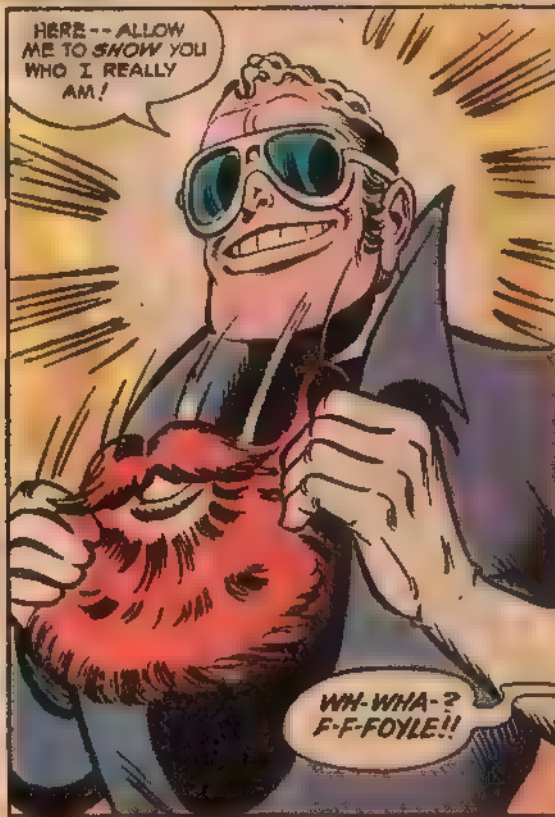
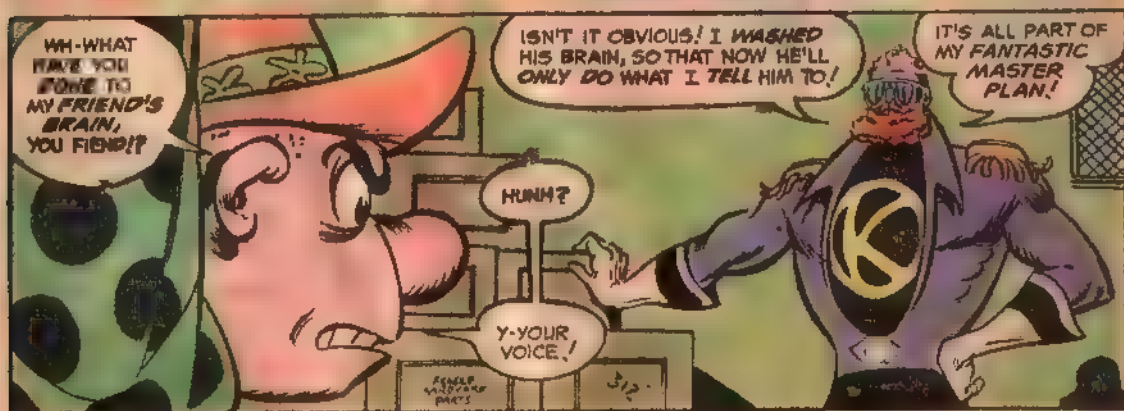
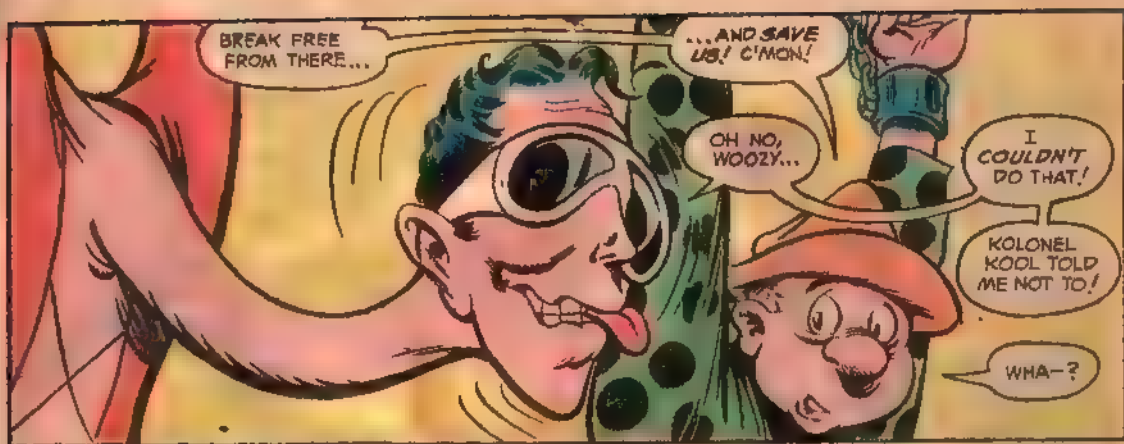
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THAT'S RIGHT YOU FAT FOOL! THE MOMENT OF TRUTH HAS ARRIVED!

IT'S REALLY TOO BAD I HAD TO **BRAIN-WASH** YOUR RUBBERIZED FRIEND. I WOULD LIKE IT IF HE WERE **FULLY AWARE** OF WHAT'S ABOUT TO **HAPPEN** TO HIM!

BUT, AT LEAST, YOU **KNOW**, MR WINKS!

BUT, AT
LEAST, YOU
KNOW,
MR WINKS

BESIDES, THE STRENGTH
WASN'T WHAT WAS REALLY
IMPORTANT!

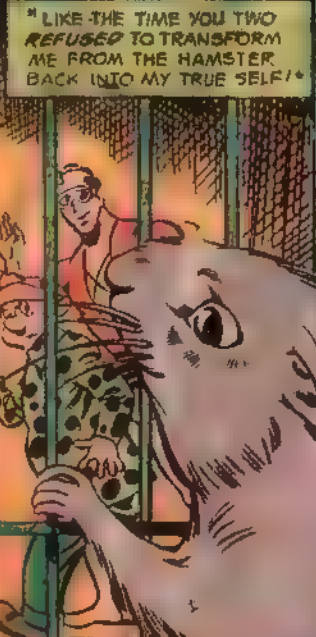
FAR MORE SIGNIFICANT
WAS WHAT THE RAY HAD DONE
TO MY MIND! I HAD BECOME
VENGEFUL!



AND, SLOWLY, A PLAN
BY WHICH I COULD HAVE
MY REVENGE UPON YOU
AND PLAS TOOK SHAPE
IN MY NIMBLE MIND!

"REVENGE FOR SO MUCH!"

"LIKE THE TIME YOU TWO REFUSED TO TRANSFORM ME FROM THE HAMSTER BACK INTO MY TRUE SELF!"



"REMEMBER? THAT TALE WAS ENTITLED 'THE HAMSTERS OF DOOM!'"

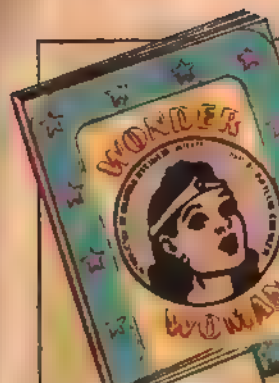


OR LIKE THE TIME YOU KNOCKED ME UNCONSCIOUS, SIMPLY BECAUSE I WAS WEARING THE GARB OF A BOGUS MAN!

* AND THIS ONE WAS CALLED, "THE BOGUS-MEN WILL GET YOU IF YOU DON'T WATCH OUT!"

CONTINUING ON P. 35 PAUL HINDWY, JR.

* AND THIS ONE WAS CALLED,
"THE BOGUS-MEN WILL GET
YOU IF YOU DON'T WATCH OUT"
CONTINUED ON 35P PAGE TWO



UP AGAINST THE WALL SUPERHEROES! THE NUMBER ONE SUPERHERO IS HERE! THE... AS A N TO THESE GLORIOUS GOLDEN AGE ADVENTURES OF THE AMAZING AMAZON!

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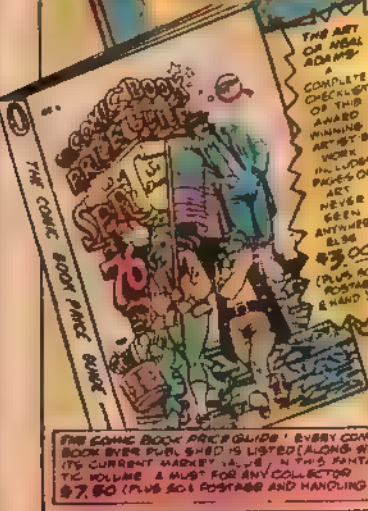
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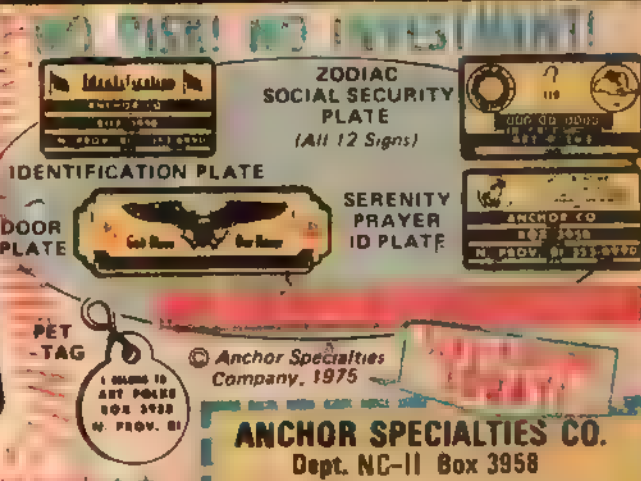
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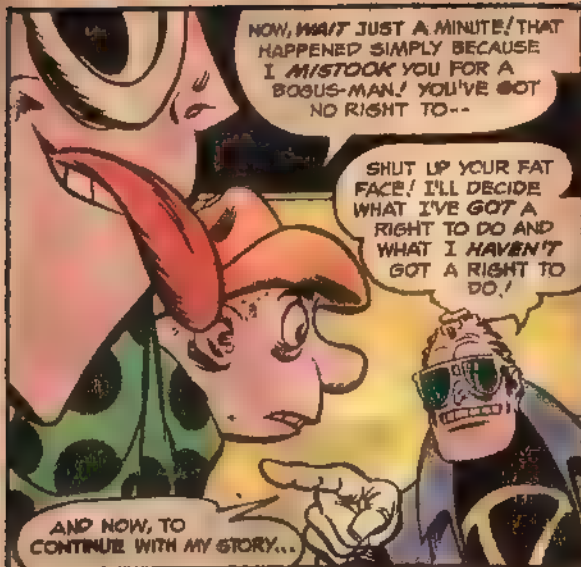
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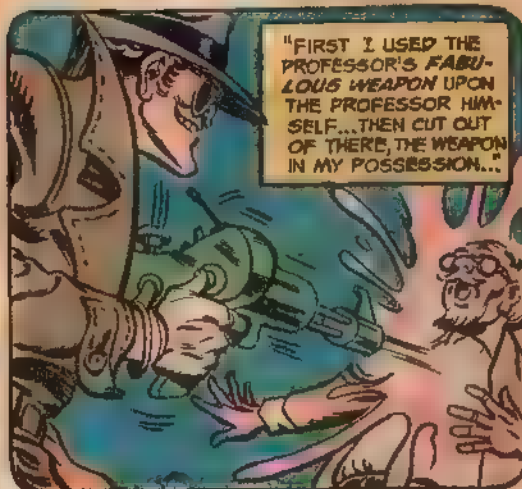
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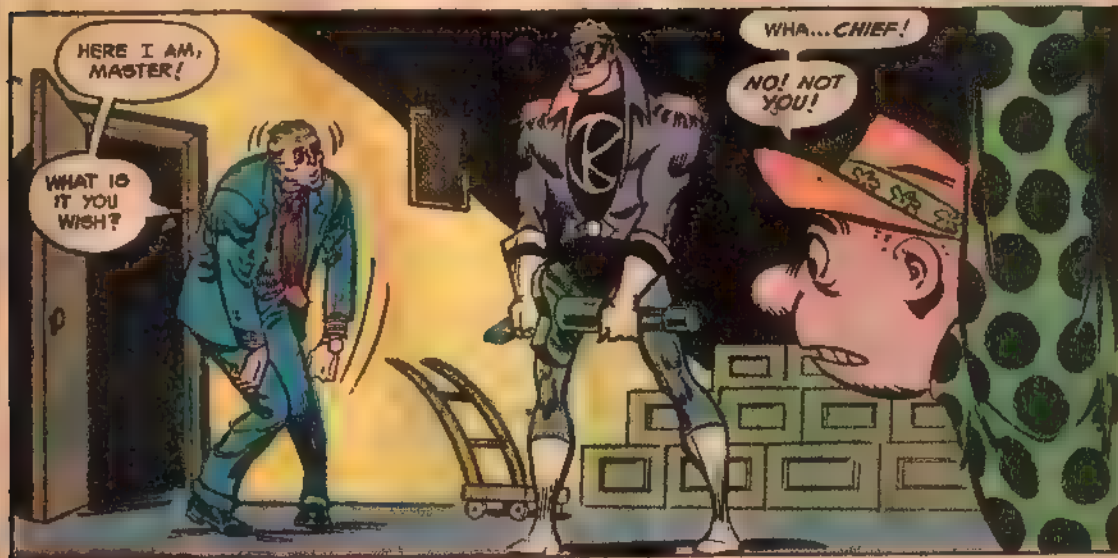
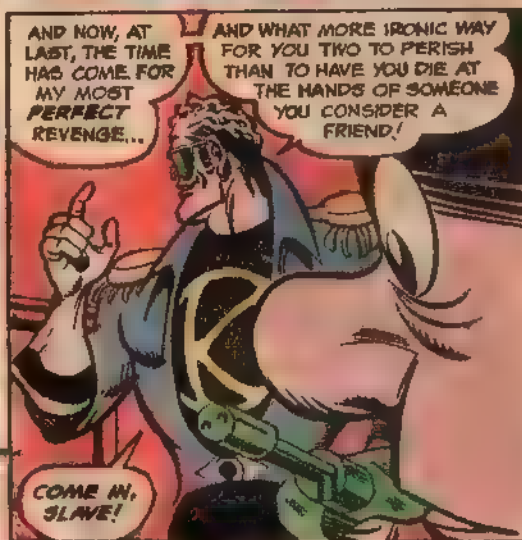


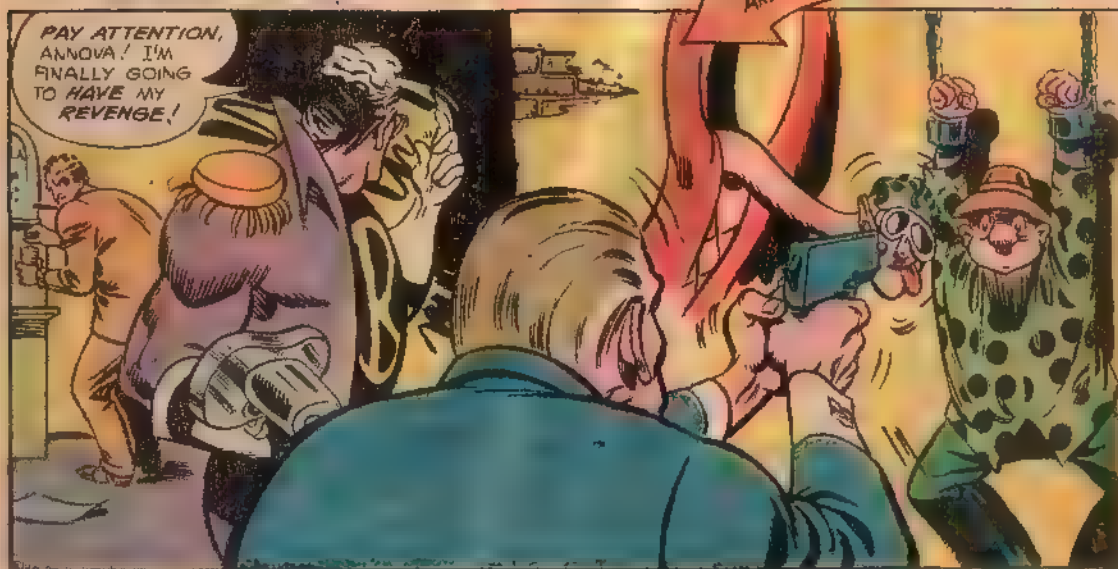
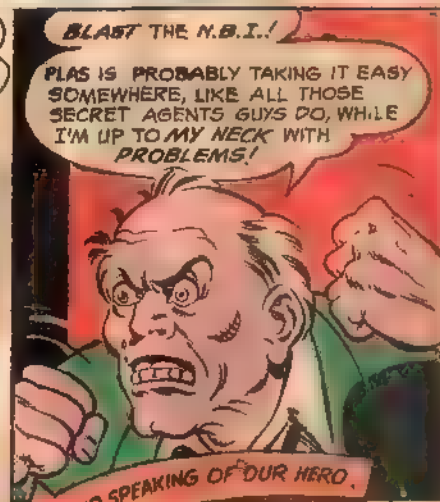
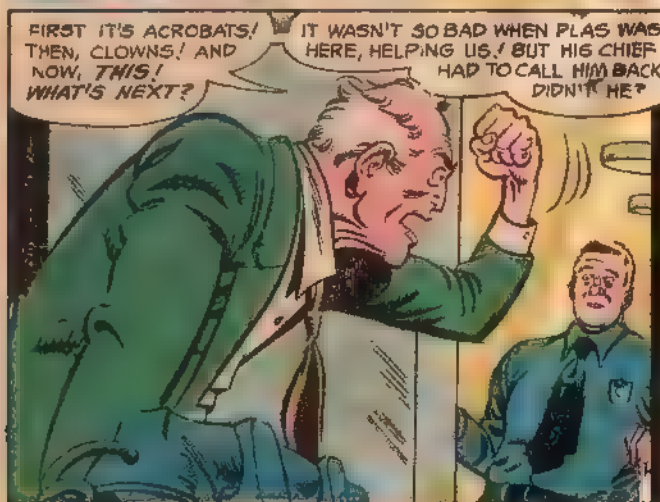
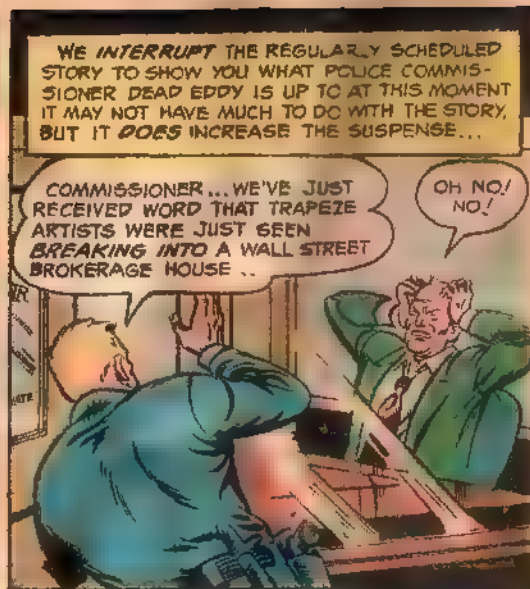
"I NEXT USED THE WEAPON ON A CERTAIN BOSS ANNOVA, SO THAT HE WOULD GIVE ME CONTROL OF HIS GANG..."

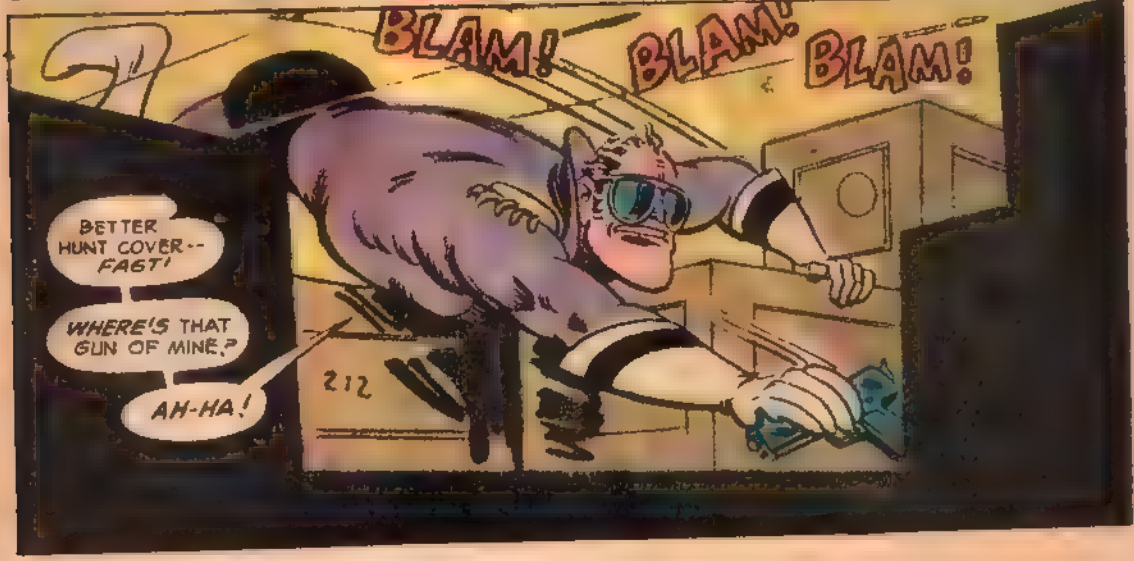
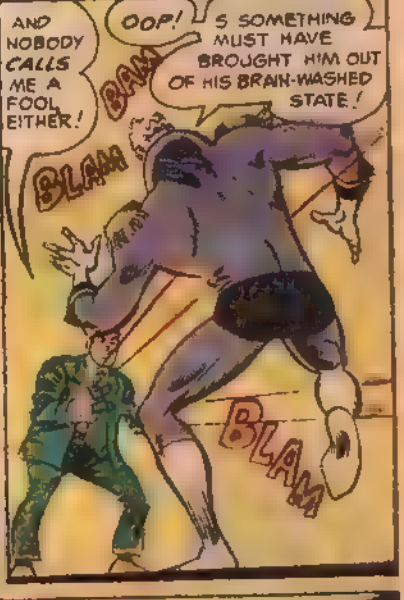
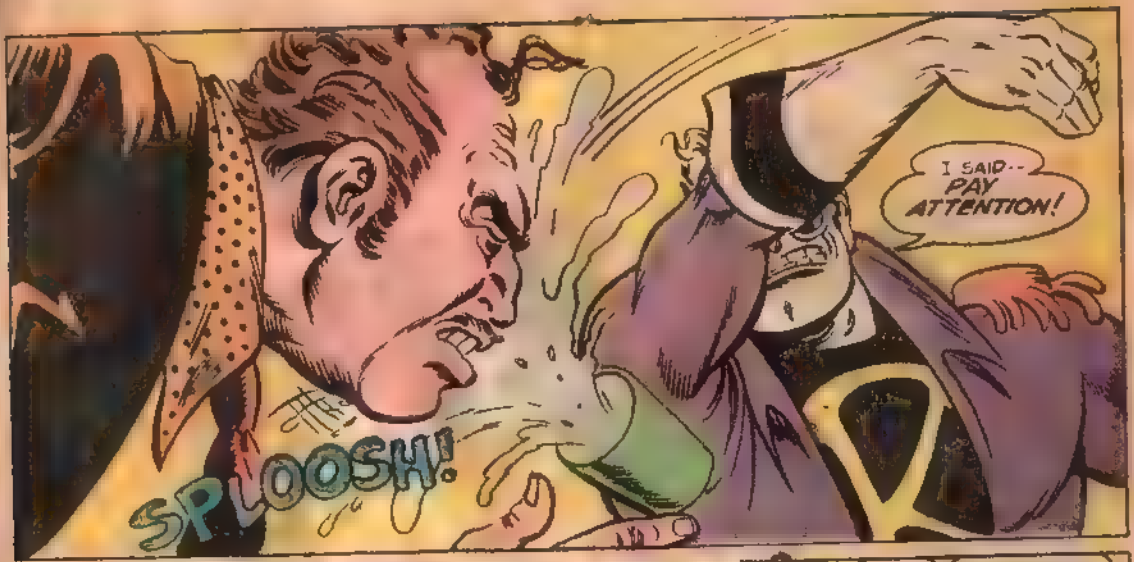


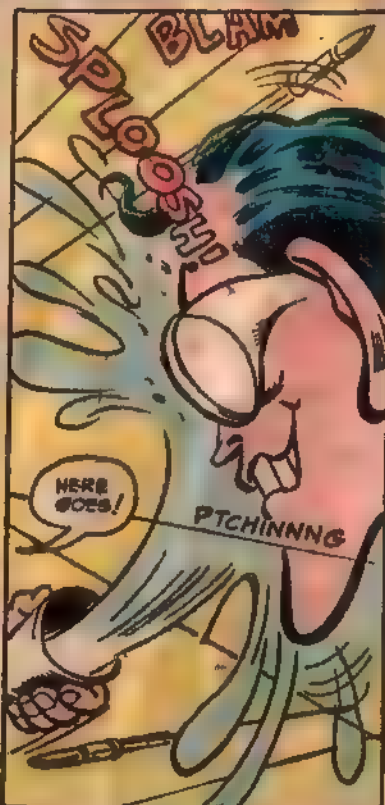
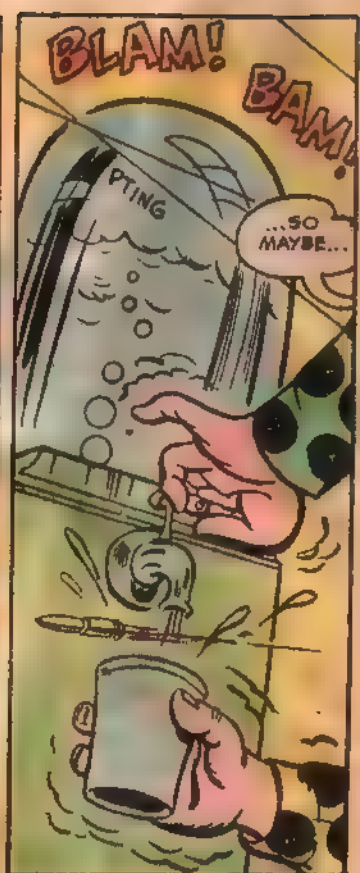
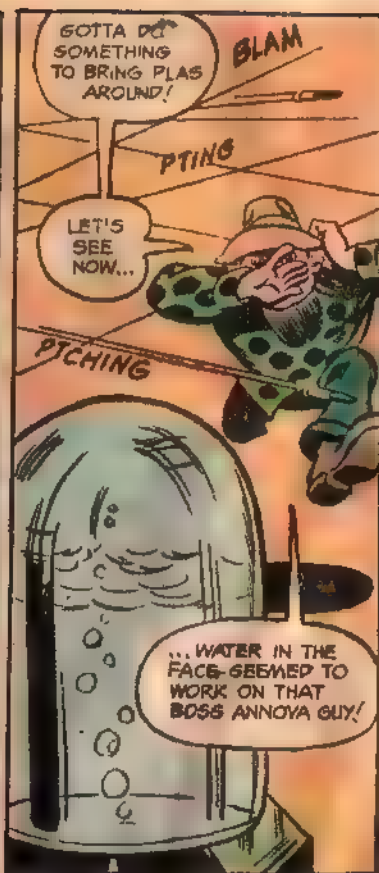
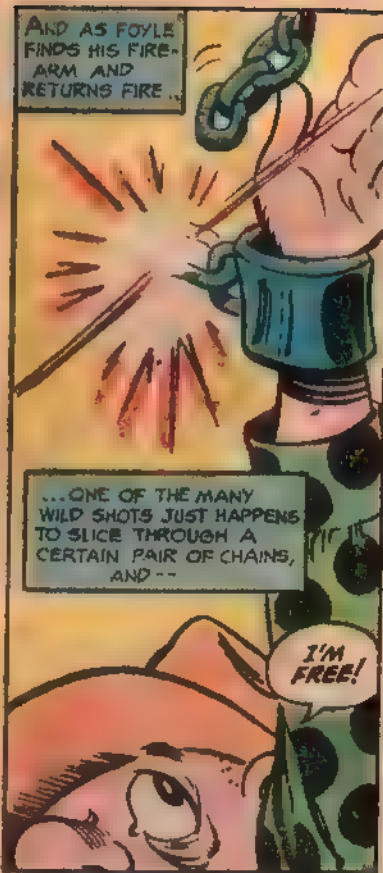
AND NOW, AT LAST, THE TIME HAS COME FOR MY MOST PERFECT REVENGE...

AND WHAT MORE IRONIC WAY FOR YOU TWO TO PERISH THAN TO HAVE YOU DIE AT THE HANDS OF SOMEONE YOU CONSIDER A FRIEND!









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ROBIN

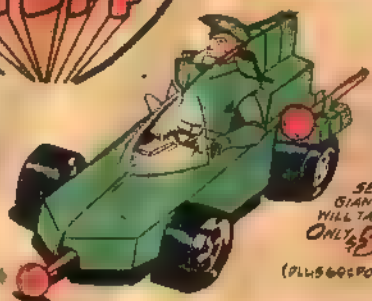


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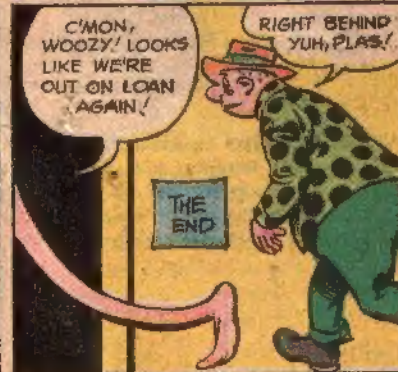
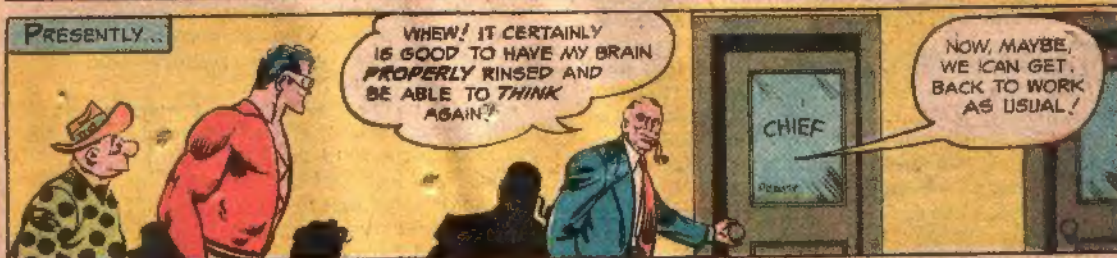
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PLASTIC POSTCARDS

L584



Ahem. Remember us? We may have disappeared from your newstands for an unusually long period of time, but we have not died. Repeat: **PLASTIC MAN** is not dead.

Not for lack of trying, though. Sales on our first few issues have been remarkably weak for a character of *Plas'* pliable proportions and we're trying to fix that. Beginning next issue, you'll see a different sort of *Plastic Man* story in these pages, courtesy of Managing Editor Joe Orlando and writer John Albano. And if that series succeeds the way we hope it will, you'll be seeing *Plas* on a less stretchable schedule in the future.

.....

Dear Gerry,

I'm sure glad that you've continued the Jack Cole tradition of portraying *Plastic Man* as a secret agent. Not only does it make for some great stories, but it gives me the opportunity to say that he makes a real great rubber Bond (ouch). . . .

With that atrocity out of the way, I think I'll review #14. Truly, this is the finest yet produced during your reign as editor. Quite correctly, Elliot Maggin does not script his narration as if he himself thinks the story to be funny. He manages to keep a straight face during the weirdest of situations. This made happenings like *Plas'* nausea attack, the defeathering of the chickens, and Foyle's self-impressed attack on Meat-By-Product all the more unexpected.

By the way, it seems obvious to me that Sludge was the male. After all, he pursued Meat-By-Product halfway across the continent, and since there hasn't yet been a female liberation movement among Silme monsters, it seems obvious that such creatures would stick to the traditional rules of—yech—courtship!

One question before I sign off: when a comic book story is being illustrated, do the pencils have to clear the editor before being inked?

Adam Castro
New Rochelle, New York

EVERYTHING has to clear the editor's desk: plot, script, pencils, lettering, inks, the corrected book, the black and white proof, the color proof, the paper, the ink, the staples, the plates, the printer . . . next week we even plan to check out your local newdealer!

.....

Dear Editor,

I am a little dismayed by *Plastic Man's* latest escapade. *Plas* rose to fame years ago because his adventures were witty, unlikely, far-fetched, yet extremely well-written and based on a semi-serious core. Conway & Co. have continued this tradition with some amazingly similar tales which made it seem like *Plastic Man* had never even been away. But #14 doesn't

deserve to keep company with those stories.

Elliot S. Maggin evidently became over-enamored with the funny elements in this series and chose to ignore the wit and cleverness on which the humor is based. Instead of giving us a cogent and exciting *Plas* story tinged with silliness, he heaped satire upon satire into 17 pages of pratfalls, eight gags and pokes at food-additives. The entire thing wore thin and lost its humor mighty fast. I could "smell" the ending coming after page 6. What I enjoyed most about this series was its total unpredictability . . . but #14 was predictable from the cover on.

Ramona Fradon's pencils were superlative as always, and Mike Royer's inks served to make the art even more superlative. Or should that be more better?

Scott Gibson
2711 South Pinehurst
Evergreen, Colorado 80439

Tell twelve people the same joke, and you'll get thirteen different laughs or groans.

.....

Dear Gerry,

Plastic Man is just not getting the right artwork. The style doesn't fit the character, which is to say the artists you've been using can't combine reality with cartooning the way Jack Cole did. Few can, of course, but there is one artist who can and he is already working for National. I mean Joe Staton.

The work he did on *E-MAN* should convince you that he can do wonders with old *Plas*. *E-Man* and *Plastic Man* are really brothers of the soul, two of the very few characters of their type who worked successfully. This was due in large part to the artwork. Joe Staton has been doing mostly inking chores for DC—and doing a fine job—but he is one hell of a penciller and I think you're foolish not to use him on a book like **PLASTIC MAN**.

Terry Hughes
365 N. Fredrick St.
Arlington, Virginia

We agree with you . . . and we don't. Actually, we think he would do a terrific job on **PLASTIC MAN**, and if Ramona ever needs a fill-in he's the first guy we'd think of. But we feel he'd do an even better job penciling another DC "fun" title. Since he's also known for his nifty nuts-and-bolts machines, we're turning Joe loose on the **METAL MEN**. That's our bet for the perfect assignment for him.

.....

Please address your comments to: **PLASTIC POSTCARDS**, National Periodical Publications, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, New York 10019.

SUPERBOY SOLO-STARS IN SUPER-STARS!

BOY OF STEEL IN ACTION AGAIN AS BIGFOOT STALKS SMALLVILLE (Smallville)—It's been awhile since *Superboy* has been seen in solo action, but the Son of Krypton gets his chance when **DC SUPER-STARS #12** hits the stands the week of November 29th.

The mysterious creature known as **Bigfoot** is stalking through Smallville and only **Superboy** can track it down. Add to this a brand-new girlfriend for the Boy of Steel and the amazing return of the Robot-Teacher from Krypton and you've got a full-length adventure **Super-Fan** will want to miss.

But if that's not enough to sell you, how about the reuniting of the **Superman**-team supreme as **Cary Bates** and **Curt Swan** are joined for this special issue by an old friend, **Murphy Anderson**! We've gotten **Murphy** back to the inking board of us to make **DC SUPER-STARS #12** really **SUPER**!

DC SUPER-STARS

presents...

SUPERBOY



TERRA-MAN GETS HIS OWN TV SHOW

(Metropolis)—Think you've seen some really weird shows on television so far this season? Well, they're nothing like the brand-new series that begins in Metropolis in **ACTION #468**!

That space-age cowboy, **Terra-Man** has taken over the airwaves and everybody in town is being compelled to watch "Terra at Nine O'Clock!" and the wild westerner has a very special guest star on his show—none other than **Superman** himself! **Cary Bates**, **Curt Swan** and **Tex Blaisdell** have joined forces to bring you the wildest cowboys-and-superheroes adventure you've ever seen!

Also in the issue, which goes on sale the week of November 29th, **Marty Pasko**, **Curt Swan** and **Frank McLaughlin** present the first in a new series, **Close-Up: Morgan Edge**, with the story of "My Son, the Orphan!"

DIRECT CURRENTS

ON SALE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29th

THE FLASH #247—The Scarlet Speedster runs into a monthly publications schedule as he finds himself on the "Mad, Mad Earth of Abra Kadabra" by **Cary Bates**, **Irv Novick** and **Frank McLaughlin**.

GHOSTS #52—We don't know yet which true tales of the supernatural editor **Murray Boltinoff** has chosen for this issue, but you can be sure it'll be an issue worth haunting your comics dealer for!

SGT. ROCK #302—This magazine undergoes a little change as the leader of Easy Company finally gets what he deserves! **Sgt. Rock** by **Bob Kanigher** and **Joe Kubert**—in his own magazine!

TARZAN #258—The Lord of the Jungle makes his final bow at **DC** as he battles "The Renegades" in this **Joe Kubert** tale. Plus: a **Fantastic Creatures** page by **MacDonald**.

WELCOME BACK, KOTTER #3—Kotter's shaking in his boots! He's about to meet up with one of the original sweat hogs in "The Return of Angie Berelli" by **Tony Isabella**, **Ric Estrada** and **Bob Okner**.



WELCOME BACK, KOTTER

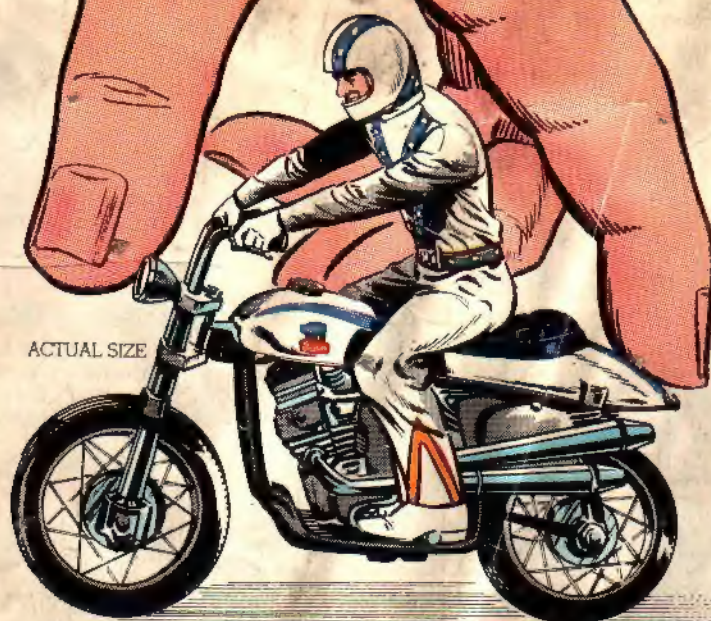
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TRIVIA QUIZ #30—Over the years, **DC** has run stories about how **Superboy** met some of his fellow superheroes before they grew up and became crimefighters. Can you name them? Answers in next week's **PLANET**.

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S QUIZ: Some years back, **J'onn J'onzz** appeared in **HOUSE OF MYSTERY** (and you can catch new adventures of the Martian Manhunter in the current **ADVENTURE COMICS**). **Dial H for Hero** was another super-hero feature in **HOM**.

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